

# **KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

## **STAFF NOTE**

### **Review Item:**

Kentucky School for the Deaf Facilities Plan Update

### **Applicable Statute or Regulation:**

KRS 167.015

### **History/Background:**

***Existing Policy.*** In the fall of 2003, the KBE directed KDE to develop a facility plan at KSD and KSB using committees resembling typical local school districts FPCs (Facilities Planning Committees). Committees were formed at each school and met regularly, through 2004, to study the use of facilities.

The FPCs reviewed the facilities at each school to determine how best to support the educational programs outlined in the Implementation Plan approved by the KBE in August 2004. The final reports explained what buildings were necessary to support the educational programs, what buildings would need to be renovated, and what new construction would be necessary or helpful to provide the space and resources necessary to support the educational programs and services for students with sensory loss, their families and their teachers statewide. Those recommendations were based on the discussions with each committee involving community and educational groups and other interested individuals and were approved by the KBE in December 2004.

The KBE will be given an update on the status of the KSD plan based on the following highlights:

- Fall 2003 - The KBE directed a Facility Plan to be developed at KSD and KSB.
- December 2004 - KBE approved a Facility Plan for KSD that would shrink and consolidate the campus to the east side of South Second Street.
- January 2005 & 2006 - KDE requested full funding of the Facility Plan from the General Assembly. KDE received no new funding, but received approval to redirect limited existing funding to renovate Kerr Hall and begin renovation of Brady Hall.
- August 2006 - The KBE approved two ½ acre parcels for sale as surplus property. The Finance and Administration Cabinet (FAC) has yet to find a buyer for this property.
- June 2007 - The KBE approved a 2½-acre parcel for sale as surplus property. The FAC has been negotiating on KDE's behalf for the sale of this property to the Danville City Schools and reached a tentative agreement proposed for July 2008.

- December 2007 – The renovation of Kerr Hall was completed and design of limited renovation of Brady Hall was begun.
- January 2008 - For the 2008 meeting of the General Assembly, KDE's 2008-2010 biennium budget request was revised to include only Phase 1 of the KSD Facility Plan. KDE received no new funding.
- Currently various local groups have expressed interests and concerns regarding KSD facilities and property.

### **Brief Summary of KSD Facilities Plan**

The completion of the KBE approved project would allow for a campus approximately 1/3 its current size and a consolidated campus operation while still maintaining the rich traditions for which KSD is known. The general plan would call for the new campus to be located on the east side of South Second Street. It would call for the renovation/reconstruction of Argo-McClure Hall, Brady Hall, Middleton Hall and Thomas Hall along with new construction/additions for a new elementary school, fine arts center/auditorium/auxiliary recreation area, student center/cafeteria and landscape changes involving such things as parking, campus entry, campus perimeter edges, lighting, vehicle and pedestrian circulation, play areas, signage and athletic areas, etc. Completion of the aforementioned work would allow KSD to be in a position to divest itself of Barbee Hall, Beauchamp Hall, Bruce Hall, Fosdick Hall, Grow Hall, Maintenance and Power Plant Facility, Old Lee Hall, New Lee Hall, Rogers Hall and Walker Hall and related real estate, hopefully to entities compatible with the KSD. Additionally, Jacobs Hall would be maintained and operated in a manner that would allow it to continue to be the symbol of KSD's rich history, which helped it to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

### **Capital Projects at KSD**

KDE has sought full funding from the General Assembly during their sessions in 2005 and 2006 for the complete KBE approved plans at KSD, but has met with limited success. While a number of small improvements have been made locally, the only significant component of the plan that has moved forward has been the renovation of the Kerr Hall Middle/High School at KSD, which was completed late in 2007.

The balance of work still needed at KSD is now estimated to cost approximately \$35,100,000. The project was divided into three phases. The Phase I project at KSD, at \$17,900,000 that included renovation of Middleton Hall and new construction of an elementary school and student center/dining hall, was requested as part of KDE's 2008-2010 Biennium Budget Request, but received no funding.

### **Capital Projects Process**

A brief overview of Capital Project Budget Event Milestones follows:

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| ▶ July 2008-June 2010 | KDE administers the Capital Projects approved by the General Assembly |
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| ▶ April 15, 2009      | KDE Capital Projects Six-Year Plan (2010-2016) submitted to the Capital Planning Advisory Board (CPAB)   |
| ▶ July 2009           | The CPAB has a public meeting to review all state agency Six-Year Plans for 2010-2016  |
| ▶ October 2009        | KDE submits its Operating and Capital Projects Budget to the Legislative Research Commission (LRC) and the Governor's Budget Office for the 2010-2012 Biennium |
| ▶ January 2010        | The Governor submits 2010-2012 Operating and Capital Budget to the General Assembly  |
| ▶ July 2010-June 2012 | KDE administers the Capital Projects approved by General Assembly  |
| ▶ April 15, 2011      | KDE Capital Projects Six-Year Plan (2012-2018) is submitted to the CPAB  |
| ▶ July 2011           | The CPAB has a public meeting to review all state agency Six-Year Plans for 2012-2018  |
| ▶ November 2011       | KDE submits its Operating and Capital Projects Budget to LRC and the Governor's Budget Office for the 2012-2014 Biennium                                       |

#### **KBE Approved Surplus Property**

- Approximately ½ acre at the corner of Fackler and Second Streets was approved by the KBE in August 2006, FAC has yet to find a buyer for this property.
- Approximately ½ acre adjacent to the corner of Jacob and Second Streets was approved by the KBE in August 2006. The FAC has yet to find a buyer for this property.
- Approximately 2 ½ acres at the corner of Martin Luther King Boulevard and Clerc Streets was approved by the KBE in June 2007. The FAC has been negotiating on our behalf for the sale of this property to the Danville City Schools and has reached a tentative agreement proposed for July 2008.
- Approximately 3 acres between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Streets is leased to the Ephraim McDowell Regional Medical Center by sealed bids. The lease runs from July 15, 2006 through June 14, 2009. In exchange for the use of property for this three-year period, KSD received \$120,000, the Medical Center paid for the razing of Cowan Hall, and will restore the property to the same condition in which they received it.

**Policy Issue(s):**

In order to provide a continuum of services to all students who are deaf/hard of hearing, the facilities must be able to support the center-based program at KSD to continue to meet the needs of its students and the outreach services of KSD for students across the state.

**Impact on Getting to Proficiency:**

Traditionally, there have been significant achievement gaps in test scores and success rates of students who are deaf/hard of hearing. Adequate facilities are a part of the modifications that are necessary to allow KSD to provide appropriate educational services to these students that will address achievement gap issues.

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**Deputy Commissioner**

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**Commissioner of Education**

**Date:**

August 2008